8th March 1955]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The matter is under examination by the Government of India."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know when the proposal for setting up an iron and steel plant will be taken up? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already stated more than once that this question of exploitation of iron and steel ore available in Salem can be taken up only when the results of exploitation of lignite in Neyveli are known."

Dental Surgery course

* 1176 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the number of students undergoing Dental Course in the State?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Thirty-two students are at present undergoing training in the B.D.S. Degree Course in the Madras Medical College."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know what is the duration of this course and what are its attractive features? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is a four-year course, and there is a great need for Dental Surgeons."

Working of the Government Transport System

* 1177 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement showing the net profit and loss in the working of the Government Transport System during 1953–54?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to pages 3 to 11 of the Supplement to the Detailed Budget Estimate for 1955–56 in respect of Government Commercial Undertakings."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" It is seen that the net profit in the working of the Government Transport System is only Rs. 7 lakhs and as compared with the profits for the previous years it is very low. May I know the reasons for the low profits obtained? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A separate question may be put and I will look into the matter."

Control of rinderpest

* 1178 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Central Government have consulted the Madras Government about the setting up of a Central Research Institute for the control and prevention of rinderpest in Madras;